



The GARzette

The Official Newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
November 2018 <http://www.gars.org/> Volume 27, Issue 11



Presentation of Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award to Ruth Willet, KM4LAO



Stone Mountain Hamfest, November 3, 2018, 1:00 PM

Message from the President

We shouldn't be surprised, but Fall is definitely here. I've lived in Georgia for almost 40 years now and it still surprises me how the weather can be so unpredictable. As they say though, if you don't like the weather in Georgia, don't worry it'll change very soon.

We were very fortunate for the Alford Memorial Radio Club (AMRC) Hamfest last weekend. Another great Hamfest is in the books and I still appreciate that a good Hamfest is so close to home. Congratulations to the AMRC for all the hard work to make it another good one.

Another thing that makes this Hamfest so good is the help and participation from GARS members. Many thanks to GARS members who helped setup on Friday, came out in the cold darkness on Saturday morning to help with the front gate and guide the Boneyard participants to their spaces, oversee the Flea Market, conduct license exams, help with many different activities during the day and finally with the cleanup and teardown on Sunday. What about that GARS Club Booth this year! It always draws a crowd that stops by for popcorn and an eyeball QSO. It's good teamwork between our clubs and thanks to the AMRC for making the largest Hamfest in Georgia a big success again.

The Hamfest wasn't the only activity in the last month. Support of the Jamboree On The Air introduced many young Scouts to Amateur Radio and helped them get their Radio merit badge. Ralph and I had another good Technician HamCram and the licenses have been posted for the new Hams. They have been invited to our next GARS meeting so if you see them, say hello and congratulations. Our



"We were very fortunate for the Alford Memorial Radio Club Hamfest last weekend. Another great Hamfest is in the books and I still appreciate that a good Hamfest is so close to home. "

HamCrams wouldn't be possible without the effort of our top notch VE Team who gave of their time to administer the exams.

So, what's next before we close out 2018? Our Holiday Party is scheduled for Saturday evening, December 8th. Signup on the GARS website to get in on this year's festivities. You'll love this year's food and festivities and bring the family. Remember that the December Holiday Party replaces our December meeting.

The CHOA Christmas

Parade is on Saturday, December 1st and help is always needed. Our Gwinnett ARES Trailer will be onsite to provide Net Control but help with communications from start to finish is always needed. Contact Jim Penland, N4RAR, at n4rar@arrl.net to help with the parade.

Here's hoping that we've all been good boys and girls this year and Santa brings us that new radio we've been wanting.

73,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Penland".

WB4QDX, Club President

"It is not the class of license the Amateur holds, but the class of the Amateur that holds the license."

[Author Unknown]

GARS October Meeting and Workshop

Bouvet Island DXpedition

by Bob Allphin, K4UEE

Tuesday, November 13, 2018 7:00 pm

Getting Started with FLdigi

by David Adcock, KA4KKF

Tuesday, November 20, 2018 7:00 pm

Sports Aviation Complex—Hangar 1
690 Airport Road
Lawrenceville, GA 30045

[Directions to EAA Hangar](#)

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GARS Communications

<u>2 Meter Repeaters</u> 147.075(+) MHz Tone 82.5 147.255(+) MHz Tone 107.2	<u>6 Meter Repeater</u> 53.110 (-1 MHz) No Tone (Offline for Maintenance)
<u>1.25 Meter Repeater</u> 224.580(-) MHz Tone 100.0, 1.6 MHz Offset	Other Resources: <u>APRS</u> 144.390 -- 1200 Baud W4GR
<u>70 Cm Repeaters</u> 444.525(+) MHz Tone 82.5 442.100(+) MHz Tone 100 442.325(+) MHz Tone 100	<u>D-STAR</u> WD4STR 145.060 + (1.4 MHz) 440.550 + (5 MHz)

**Don't forget
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back of the
GARzette.**

Snail Mail Address:
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Lawrenceville, GA 30049

The *GARzette* is the official monthly newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the Amateur Radio art.

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If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word or rich text (.rtf) or text or HTML format or by e-mail to editor@gars.org. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via e-mail to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the Amateur Radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of The *GARzette* articles by other Amateur Radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and *The GARzette*.

The GARzette is published each month with the assistance of Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV who prints copies for distribution at meetings, etc. and Dave Bruse, W4DTR, who distributes the news letter electronically.

Deadline for submissions is the 28th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For additional information view our Website at: <http://www.gars.org>

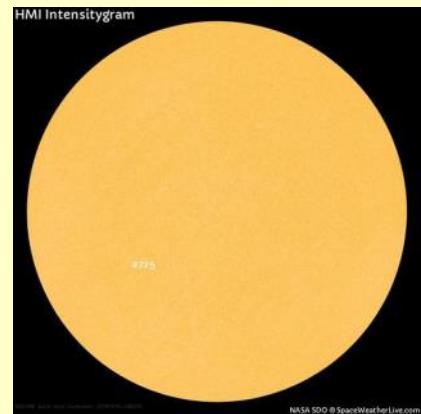
Newsletter Editor: editor@gars.org Bill Eggers—WB2RIS 470-238-9603



FT8 – Tipping Point for Ham Radio?

This is a view from NASA of the sun today, October 9, 2018, and I am making 10m DX contacts one after another. *Zero sunspots* but working DX on FT8! Is FT8 creating a “tipping point” for amateur radio at the very bottom of the solar cycle?

Several years ago I was captivated by a book written by Malcolm Gladwell called, *The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference*. Merriam-Webster defines tipping point as, “the critical point in a situation, process, or system beyond which a significant and often unstoppable effect or change takes place.” In his book, Gladwell describes how, “The tipping point is that magic moment when an idea, trend, or social behavior crosses a threshold, tips, and spreads like wildfire.” He shows us how the phenomenon applies to everything from flu epidemics to the explosion of new technologies.



Does the FT8 mode included in WSJT-X software constitute a tipping point in ham radio for good or for harm? There are many ham radio opinion blogs on the Internet that strongly or sometimes sarcastically take one or the other stance. There is even an Internet poll asking, “Is FT8 damaging amateur radio?” At this moment it is 52% yes, 45% no and 3% undecided.[1] All of the articles and videos I have seen agree on one undeniable fact – FT8 has since its introduction in June of 2017 achieved “killer app” or tipping point status. Some think it will kill amateur radio and others believe that such innovations give the hobby new life.

The FT8 digital mode is the latest in a series of weak signal applications for amateur radio. Conceived originally for enhancing esoteric propagation modes such as high speed meteor scatter and moonbounce, Joe Taylor (K1JT) developed a series of applications including FSK144, JT6M, JT65, and JT9. When FT8, jointly developed by Joe Taylor and Steve Franke (K9AN), was announced it was described as being designed for, “multi-hop Es” where signals may be weak and fading, openings may be short, and you want fast completion of reliable, confirmable QSO’s.”[2] Being a 6 meter fan, that resonates with me.

What happened to take an esoteric mode designed for multi-hop E skip on VHF and overnight turn it into a worldwide phenomenon across all bands from 2200m through 70cm? In other words, what makes FT8 a killer app? Here are a few of my observations:

• FT8 counters the current dearth of sunspots	• FT8 lets you work weak signal DX without proficient CW skills
• FT8 opens “dead bands”	• FT8 decoding to -20 dB SNR is like turning 100W into 10kW
• FT8 is addictive – see ‘em, click ‘em, work ‘em... Boom!	• FT8 is like having constant DX beacons on every band
• FT8 lets little pistols work DXCC like a big gun	• FT8 puts the DX, WAS, WAZ, etc. on the air when they might not be
• FT8 lets you work the world from small or deed restricted lots	• FT8 let’s you work DXCC on 160m without a big station
• FT8 is a weak signal – not a low power mode (power works the really weak ones)	• FT8 lets you call CQ and become the DX
• FT8 lets you work DX on 6m when there would be none	• FT8 is amazing literally space age technology
• FT8 is suddenly dominating VHF/UHF contesting	• FT8 is probably other things I haven’t realized yet but some of you have

So, will FT8 kill ham radio as some have posed? True, it is mostly automated. True, it reduces the skill required to make DX contacts. True, it removes conversation from the QSO the same as is true of most DX chasing contacts on any mode. True, it removes some of the human factor. But does that make it bad for amateur radio’s future?

In my humble opinion, FT8 is at the very heart of what amateur radio has been about from its inception – amateurs who love the art of radio enhancing the art of radio. The FCC in Part 97 of the rules lists the following as second in the list of five tenets that define amateur radio:

FT8 (Continued on page 5)

GARS Happenings

20 Years ago in the November 1998 GARzette:

- Bob Varone, WA4ETN, ponders the “good old days” of Amateur Radio;
- This month’s “On The Air” features Terry Lewis, KD4KVV;
- The ARES / SkyWarn article discussed the Simulated Emergency Test (SET) on October 3rd, and a change in Gwinnett County ARES leadership;
- Jim Hatherly, WA1TBY, presents his poem titled “CW Forever and Ever”;
- Arizona hams help locate a lost toddler;
- A Canadian ham’s license was suspended for willful interference;
- Legislation in Wisconsin that bans mobile use of two way radio equipment was defeated;
- Thanks to efforts by the ARRL, hams were exempted from a local jurisdiction CB Radio enforcement bill;
- A proposed postage increase raises the ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureau fee.

You can always browse the GARzette archive at <http://www.gars.org/newsletters>

73, *Bill*, WB2RIS, GARzette Editor



GARS HOLIDAY PARTY

WHO? You and your family!

WHAT? GARS HOLIDAY PARTY!

WHEN? SATURDAY, December 8th, at 1830 (6:30PM)

WHERE? EAA Hanger

GARS is gearing up for another awesome Holiday Party! There will be **NO** regular meeting in December on the second Tuesday!

On Saturday, December 8th, We will meet at 6:30pm and dinner will be served at 7pm. Tickets are \$12 each for adults and can be purchased on gars.org or at the November meeting. The meal will be from **The 5 Spot Café**.

If you don't wish to signup for the meal you may arrive after 2000 (8:00 PM) for the party and short meeting.

We will have door prizes, games, music, and a **decorated hat contest!!!!** So put on your thinkin' cap and decorate a hat!

We will also be presenting the **Ham of the Year** award and wrap up 2018! Table decorators needed! Please send me a new email at kj4dro@gmail.com, if you wish to decorate a table. Any theme you like! Tables are 8 foot rectangle. This will not be a contest this year, just want to share the decorating joy!

Hope to see you all there!!!

73, *Sandy*, KJ4DRO



FT8 (Continued from page 4)

“Continuation and extension of the amateur’s proven ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art.”

In my humble opinion, what will ultimately kill amateur radio is not FT8. To the contrary FT8 is an example of what will keep it alive and relevant. What will kill amateur radio is if we cease to innovate, become old and grumpy, and no longer bring new blood into the hobby. I received my novice license over 50 years ago (rock bound CW on a 6L6) and still find new and exciting things to peak my interest. Frankly, technical innovation in amateur radio directly led to my career in technology just as for many of you. I hope that continues long after I am gone.

Amateur radio is alive and well. FT8 is one just one element of keeping it that way. Hope to work you soon on FT8, some other new mode, or maybe a ragchew on SSB when the sunspots come back.

73, Gerald, K5SDR, CEO, FlexRadio

(Source: <https://www.flexradio.com/ft8-tipping-point-for-ham-radio/>)

Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award

Ruth Willet, KM4LAO, a very active member of the ARRL, Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society (GARS), North Fulton Amateur Radio League (NFARL), and the Amateur Radio Club of Columbia County in Georgia, as well as the Genesee Country Amateur Radio Club in Michigan, recently received the 2018 ARRL Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award. On Nov 3, 2018, Ruth Willet, an Extra Class YL and youth operator, was presented with the plaque commentating this achievement as well as a \$1,500 check. The award was a fitting recognition of her accomplishments and contributions to both Amateur Radio and the local community.

The award ceremony was held at the Stone Mountain Hamfest in Lawrenceville, GA. Hosted by Alford Memorial Radio Club, the Stone Mountain Hamfest was also the 2018 ARRL Georgia Section Convention. Members of the Georgia section leadership team were in attendance. David Benoit, AG4ZR, the ARRL Georgia Section Manager, started out the ceremony by speaking about the nomination process which took place before Ruth was elected to receive this prestigious award.

In addition, David Prestel, W8AJR, President of the Foundation for Amateur Radio scholarship foundation, spoke a few words about Ruth's achievements and encouraged any students present in college or above to apply for the numerous scholarships available to amateur radio operators through ARRL and FAR due to the generosity of radio clubs and individuals around the country.

Greg Sarratt, W4OZK, the ARRL Southeastern Division Director, then congratulated Ruth and presented the award to her in front of an enthusiastic crowd of Stone Mountain Hamfest attendees. In his presentation speech, Greg said, "The Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award is one of the top awards that the ARRL awards annually. When I saw Ruth's nomination package come in, it was a no-brainer for me to support Ruth to win the award this year. I am very proud of this award and honored to be here and present it to Ruth."

Numerous club members from within GA, as well as radio friends from throughout the country, were thrilled to witness this presentation.

"This award means so much because of the people that have made my amateur radio adventures so meaningful; many of whom nominated me for this honor," Ruth said. "I am so touched by the amount of affection and support that I have received from the ham radio community. I am thankful for all the life lessons I have learned so far from this hobby. I hope that this award will give me a platform to continue encouraging more people to get licensed and involved in this amazing hobby. I would also like to motivate experienced hams to reach out and make a lasting impact on new hams through mentoring them. I enjoy sharing my love for the hobby through various platforms and encouraging young hams to explore many aspects of the hobby and learn as much as they can."

Following the award presentation, chocolate and golden pound cakes were served with lemonade. Sandy Jackson, KJ4DRO, GARS Vice President, prepared the reception tables and cut and served the cake. The congratulation cakes were baked and decorated by Sharon Willet, KM4TVU. This reception was enjoyed by the many attendees as they mingled together and congratulated Ruth.



Maxim Award (Continued on page 12)

Beginner's Corner

Parks on the Air, Part II

Last time we discussed the Parks on the Air (POTA) Program. Since I wrote that column, several items of note crossed my mind.

First, when you activate a site, any site with any of the “On the Air” programs, keep a logbook. You will be entering the log information into the POTA or other site in order to get credit for it. Record the call signs of the stations contacted, the time and frequency and the quality of the signal. It is customary to say, “You are five-nine.” That means that the signal strength of the station you talked to was a “five” meaning a strong signal. (Signal strength is from 1 to 5 with five being the strongest.) The “nine” rates the intelligibility of the signal was perfect, 100% copy. (1 means barely readable. The scale goes up to 9, which means the signal received was perfectly readable.) When giving a reception report, be perfectly honest. If the signal is weak and barely readable, a “two-three” might be in order. When dealing with a VHF or UHF signal that is some distance away, that may be an honest report.

Here is an example of a 20-meter park activation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qQsWxv6pCi0>. The video shows just how easy it is to activate a park.

You must have a minimum of 10 contacts (QSO's) to activate a park.

Always get permission to activate any site.

The Chattahoochee River shows as one designation, K-0662. There are several sites with this designation. GARS activated the site on Abbotts Bridge Rd in Duluth. It was a lot of fun. If you go there, there is now a \$5.00 entrance fee. Check with the ranger before activation. They have several rules, and each Chattahoochee National Recreation Area site may have different rules.

The author has visited Brasstown Bald recently. One of the rangers said that numerous hams have activated the National Park. Some have had external antennas. Some have just used a handheld with a whip antenna. It was foggy the day we went (see photo), but it is an easy site to activate. You do not need permission in advance, but you might check the weather report before you go. Brasstown Bald is a site just waiting to be activated. There is plenty room to set up antennas. If you ask, you can get permission to drive to the summit. You can set up a nice external antenna there if you wish.



With the sun being at solar minimum, having a general or extra class license can get you on the air. 20 meters has not been so good lately. The 6-meter band is called the “magic band” because two phenomena called “sporadic e” and “tropospheric scatter” will allow this band (as well as 10 and 2 meters) signals to go much farther than they normally would. Prediction of these two events is not easy to do. Look up these phenomena on the internet or ask at your club if there is anyone familiar with these. There are clubs that specialize in chasing DX (distant stations) on the VHF and UHF, as well as the 6 and 10-meter bands.

Parks on the Air lists over 150 sites just in Georgia alone. One trying to activate all the sites in Georgia will have a lot of travel and a lot of activating to do. Great hunting!

73 de *David Harden, KJ4CMY*

Gwinnett ARES Highlights

By Karen Whited, AB4NW

Meetings are held the 4th Tuesday at 7:30 pm at the EOC on Hi Hope Road. If you are interested in emergency communications, contact Hall Collier W4IGE at w4ige@arrl.net.



UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
FOOTBALL

Bill Cherepy WB4WTN volunteers for ham radio support during home games

For 40 years members of the Athens Radio Club have provided support to the Red Cross at UGA home games. Assignments are made during a pre-game briefing. There are 12 first aid stations, 3 first aid rooms with medical personnel, and a Student Center station that is manned until shortly after kickoff. There are also two roving teams; one each for the north and south stands. A net is established and a roll call made. A Control Center houses event staff, law enforcement, EMS, and housekeeping. Athens Clarke County EMA also activates their EOC with an amateur radio operator on site. Bill's duties include reporting to Net Control all Red Cross assists. The assists can be anything from handing out band-aids and sunscreen to more serious problems. Hams call in additional support as needed to meet medical needs. They are located throughout the stadium and have the best communications, so they also handle requests for housekeeping and law enforcement. After the game, hams are required to remain at their stations for 30 minutes or until released. Bill received his 25-game pin last year and derives great satisfaction in handling real world emergency situations. The best part is getting to watch all the home games!



S.E.T. HELD ON OCTOBER 6 Simulated Emergency Test

Our annual simulated exercise confirms the ability of Gwinnett ARES to provide emergency communications to the Gwinnett County EOC, the State Operations Center, and across the counties and state during any disaster.

This year's scenario was a coastal hurricane with evacuees fleeing inland. Our members were assigned to five shelters located in fire stations across the County as well as the EOC and hospitals. We communicated shelter and hospital needs using Winlink, DRATS, Fldigi, and voice traffic. At the October 23 ARES meeting, we held an after-action debriefing to discuss what went well, what were our challenges, what we learned, and what could be improved upon for next year.



Net Managers Corner

Monday Night 2 Meter “Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net”

GARS NEEDS MEMBERS TO SERVE AS NET CONTROL STATIONS!

GARS is a great Amateur Radio service club and we have the membership and awards to prove it. Our club is a very busy and active club and we use the Monday night net to get the information out to our members. Weekly participation is needed to make our net function well. There is only a small group of very dedicated people that make the net happen each week, and we need more members to volunteer to serve as Net Control Stations (NCS) on a rotating basis.

Out of almost 300 members, there are only fifteen primary people who serve as NCS for the GARS net every Monday night. In no particular order, they are:

Norm - WA4ZXV	Kyle - W4KDA	Mitch - N0DIM
Ruth - KM4LAO	Hal - W4IGE	Don - KW4AL
Ray - N4GYN	Sandy - KJ4DRO	John - WB4QDX
Bill - KK4AUA	David - KK4KAF	Kevin - KK4WOG
Chuck - KK4TKJ	Mike - KK4KHS	Donna - KM4FMW

As GARS Net Manager (Chuck KK4TKJ), I really need 26 people to fill NCS positions. I do plan and post the schedule months in advance. Any conditions will be accommodated that you as a rotating NCS need to place on the scheduling of your duties. If your plans change, I can make adjustments for the schedule to work, and I will make those changes happen as soon as I am notified of a problem. As Net Manager, I also send out reminders each week to let the NCS scheduled know he or she is NCS for the next Monday night net. In short, serving as a rotating NCS is a small duty but a great contribution to the club.

The “Want, Swap, Sell Information Net” begins promptly at 19:30 every Monday night and runs about 45 minutes. As a scheduled NCS, you will request the assistance of a volunteer alternate NCS each time you have Net Control. Your simple duties will be to tune in to the GARS repeater, read the script, take a few notes and forward the information to me for record keeping.

Please lend a hand and contact me at KK4TKJ@arrl.net. Sign up to help support the effort that makes GARS the great club that it is.

73 and see you on the Nets!

Chuck McCord, KK4TKJ

GARS Net Manager

GARS Membership Page

New GARS Members in October

**Stephen Kemp (WB4CVB)
Madai Similao**

New Members: 2

Total Members as of November 1, 2018
306

Join GARS members for our
weekly breakfast gathering at
7:30 AM most Saturdays

at

**Golden Corral
2155 Riverside Parkway
Lawrenceville, GA 30043**

[**\(Directions\)**](#)

**The following members are
celebrating birthdays
in November:**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!
From All of Us at GARS**

**John Bachtel (NR4JB)
Tommy Broom (K4THB)
Lasburne Colquhoun (KK4IQG)
Kenneth Dalton (KI4BQS)
Eddie Geike (AK4WM)
William Grube (KM4NIM)
Kevin Jones (N4KWJ)
John Kludt (K4SQC)
Al Ludwick (NN4ZZ)
Andrea Lynch (KM4OKX)
Jack Shipley (W4UVQ)
Andre Steyn (W7ALS)
Lawrence Teper (KN4CGP)
James Webb (W4NTA)
William Wisenburg (KM4ONE)**

GARS MEMBERSHIP

Your current GARS membership status is shown in the monthly newsletter e-mail
towards the bottom of the message.

To become a GARS member, or to renew your GARS membership, please visit our website—<http://www.gars.org>

To make changes to your GARS membership (moved, new e-mail address, new phone number, etc.),
please e-mail the Membership Committee - membership@gars.org

You can **renew or update** your Amateur Radio license information with the FCC at their website for free
<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>

To update your ARRL information, please visit their website - <http://www.arrl.org>

Membership Chair: Karen Albritton, KI4HPP
Committee Members: Dave Bruse, W4DTR, Pam Meridy, WB1AKQ

EXTRA! EXTRA!

Repeater Status

6M	currently down
147.075	Operational in Snellville
147.255	Operational in Snellville
224.580	Operational in Grayson
442.100	Operational at Goshen Springs
442.325	Operational in Buford
444.525	Operational in Snellville

Link remote receivers being added



L&M Mobility

Robert (Mike) Smith
5191 La Paloma Dr.
Lilburn, GA 30047
Phone (404) 509-3104
Smithrm70@hotmail.com

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GARS on Social Media

GARS has moved from Yahoo Groups to Groups.io!

If you were subscribed to the Yahoo group, you have been automatically enrolled in Groups.io!



Join GARS on Groups.io:
<http://qars.org/groups.io>

Vis-



it GARS on Facebook:
<http://qars.org/facebook>



Join GARS on YouTube:
<http://qars.org/youtube>



Follow GARS on Twitter:
<http://qars.org/twitter>

G A R S Volunteers

OFFICERS

John Davis, President	WB4QDX	
Sandy Jackson, Vice President	KJ4DRO	
Joe Biddle, Secretary	AD4PZ	
Pam Meridy, Treasurer	WB1AKQ	
Randy Collins, Program Manager	N4COR	

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Karen Albritton, Membership Chair and Public Information Officer	KI4HPP	
Dave Bruse, VE Team & Workshop Leader and Winter Field Day Chair	W4DTR	
David Adcock, Webmaster and Field Day Chair	KA4KKF	
Ralph Pickwick, Apparel Manager and Education Chair	KJ4CNC	
Neal Gilchrist, TechFest Chair	W4HNG	
Bill Eggers, GARzette Editor	WB2RIS	
Eddie Foust, Repeater Chair	WD4JEM	
Mike Weathers, WAS-Checker and Historian	ND4V	
Chuck McCord, Net Manager	KK4TKJ	
Mike Swiderski, Technical / RFI Advisor	K4HBI	
GA QSO Party Chair	TBD	
Kyle Albritton, Multimedia Chair	W4KDA	

DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES

Kyle Albritton	W4KDA	
Mike Weathers	ND4V	
Rick Cobb	N4XYY	
Bill Cherepy, W4GR Trustee	WB4WTN	

GARS MEETING MINUTES

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society – GENERAL Meeting Minutes 10/9/2018

President John Davis (WB4QDX) opened the meeting at 7:00pm and Closed the meeting at 8:45pm EAA Facility, 690 Hanger Rd. Lawrenceville, GA.

Introductions and Visitors: Visitors were recognized and full Introductions of the [57] attendees followed.

Treasurer: Pam Meridy (WB1AKQ) gave the Club financial report.

Membership Report: Karen Albritton (KI4HPP) that Membership is at [314].

Program Chair: Randy Collins (N4COR)

Upcoming Programs:

November – Bouvet DX Expedition
December - GARS Holiday Party
January 2019 – Radio Navigation
February 2019 – W1AW Presentation

GARS Education – Ralph (KJ4CNC)

Reminds us of next week's School Roundup and to support our local GARS sponsored school clubs.

Informs us a **Ham Cram** is coming up on October 17. Anyone interested, the fee is \$20 and attendees get a free Ticket to the Lawrenceville Hamfest.

Sandy (KJ4DRO) requests volunteers to help operate HF during a contest for our GARS School Clubs: W4GGC & KD4CGR.

Jamboree on the Air – October 20th at the VFW in Lawrenceville. Steve (WB2OGY) is looking for Volunteers.

GARS Workshop Program: David (W4DTR), (John in his stead) outlined the next few workshop sessions coming up:

October 16 - D-RATS

Hamfest –

We are reminded and asked to volunteer for the November Hamfest and to Sign up. Volunteers are also needed at the GARS Table at the Hamfest.

Ham Of the Year Nominations – John (WB4QDX) requests nominations for Ham Of The Year (HOTY) be sent to John's email of WB4QDX@ARRL.NET and the deadline is Thanksgiving day.

GARA Holiday party – Sign up for your attendance to this party. **See GARS.ORG to sign up.**

Break:

Program: Show and Tell of projects made by GARS Members.

**Submitted by: Joe Biddle (AD4PZ)
GARS Secretary**

Maxim Award (Continued from page 6)

The Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award is given in honor of the late Hiram Percy Maxim, who was an American radio pioneer and was instrumental in the founding of the American Radio Relay League. Ruth was named as the recipient of the 2018 ARRL Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award by the ARRL Board of Directors at its July 20 – 21, 2018 meeting. This award is given annually by the Board to a radio amateur under the age of 21 whose accomplishments and contributions to both Amateur Radio and the local community are of an exemplary nature.

Ruth Willet is Junior at Kettering University in Michigan where she is studying Engineering Physics and Mechanical Engineering. Ruth is the president of the Kettering University Amateur Radio club, K8HPS. She works at Textron Specialized Vehicles in Augusta, GA during her bi-annual co-op terms. As an active member of AMSAT, Ruth enjoys operating portably on satellites wherever she travels. When she is not studying or on the air, Ruth enjoys singing classical repertoire, traveling, and spending time with her family and cat, Pattycake.

ARRL CONTESTING INFO

From ARRL Contest Calendar

> For more information click the links <

November 2018

24-25 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)
3-5 [Nov. Sweepstakes – CW](#)
17-19 [Nov. Sweepstakes – Phone](#)
30 [160 Meter \(Day 1\)](#)

December 2018

1-2 [160 Meter \(Days 2 and 3\)](#)
8-9 [10 Meter](#)
16 [Rookie Roundup–CW](#)

January 2019

1 [Straight Key Night](#)
5 [Kid's Day](#)
5-6 [RTTY Roundup](#)
19-21 [January VHF Sweepstakes](#)

February 2019

11-15 [School Club Roundup](#)
16-17 [International DX – CW](#)

March 2019

2-3 [International DX– Phone](#)

April 2019

14 [Rookie Roundup – Phone](#)

June 2019

8-10 [June VHF](#)
15 [Kid's Day](#)
22-23 [Field Day](#)

July 2019

13-14 [IARU HF World Championship](#)

August 2019

3-4 [222 MHz and Up Distance Contest](#)
17-18 [10 GHz & Up – Round 1](#)
18 [Rookie Roundup – RTTY](#)

September 2019

14-16 [September VHF](#)
21-22 [10 GHz & Up - Round 2](#)
21-22 [EME - 2.3 GHz & Up](#)

For more information:

<http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>

HAMFEST CALENDAR

11/03/2018 | [Georgia Section Convention \(Stone Mountain Hamfest\)](#)

Location: Lawrenceville, GA
Type: ARRL Convention
Sponsor: Alford Memorial Radio Club
Website: <http://stonemountainhamfest.com/>

11/10/2018 | [Alabama Section Convention](#)

Location: Montgomery, AL
Type: ARRL Convention
Sponsor: Montgomery Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://www.w4ap.org/Events/Hamfest.htm>

11/10/2018 | [HamJam 2018 Convention](#)

Location: Alpharetta, GA
Type: ARRL Convention
Sponsor: North Fulton Amateur Radio League
Website: <http://hamjam.info>

01/12/2019 | [Georgia ARES Convention & Meeting](#)

Location: Forsyth, GA
Type: ARRL Convention
Sponsor: Georgia ARES
Website: <https://gaares.org/>

02/08/2019 | [Southeastern Division Convention \(Orlando HamCation\)](#)

Location: Orlando, FL
Type: ARRL Convention
Sponsor: Orlando Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://www.hamcation.com>

02/23/2019 | [Dalton Hamfest](#)

Location: Dalton, GA
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Dalton Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://www.w4drc.com>

For more information:

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar>

Note: When searching by division, remember some states adjacent to GA are in different divisions:

Southeastern: GA, AL, FL Delta: TN Roanoke: NC, SC

GARS Events Calendar for 2018 & 2019

Dog Show Fundraisers	Feb, August 2019
Tech HamCrams	March , October 2019
TechFest (www.techfest.info)	January 26, 2019
Winter Field Day	(same day as TechFest, not scheduled for 2019)
Georgia QSO Party	April 13 & 14, 2019
North metro area Fox Hunt	April 2019
May Madness	May 2019
Memorial Day Parade	May 27, 2019
ARC/KARC Hamfest	June 1, 2019
Field Day	June 22 & 23, 2019
General HamCram	July 2019
JOTA	October 2019
Maker Faire	October 2019
Stone Mt. Hamfest	November 2019
Holiday Party	December 8

GARS Recurring Calendar

- ♦ 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm (except December): Monthly Club Meeting
- ♦ 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm (except December): Monthly Workshop
- ♦ 2nd Sunday of the Month at 2 pm: [GARS Ham Exam Session](#)
Fire Station #24
2735 Mall of Georgia Blvd
Buford, GA 30519
- ♦ Every Monday at 7:30 pm: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater
- ♦ Every Monday at 8:30 pm: ARES Training on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater
- ♦ Most Saturdays at 7:30 am: GARS Weekly Breakfast
Golden Corral Restaurant
2155 Riverside Parkway, Lawrenceville, GA 30043

December GARS Speaker:

No speaker, enjoy the Holiday Party!

GARS CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
October 28	October 29 7:30 - 8:00 pm GARS 2m Net	October 30	October 31	1	2	3 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast Stone Mountain Hamfest Day 1
4 Stone Mountain Hamfest Day 2	5 7:30 - 8:00 pm GARS 2m Net	6	7	8	9	10 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast HamJam Mill Springs Academy
11 GARS VE Team Testing Session Starts at 2:00 pm Gwinnett Co. Fire Station #24	12 7:30 - 8:00 pm GARS 2m Net	13 5:00 - 6:30 pm Dinner 7:00 - 9:00 pm GARS Meeting	14	15	16	17 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
18	19 7:30 - 8:00 pm GARS 2m Net	20 5:00 - 6:30 pm Dinner 7:00 - 9:00 pm GARS Workshop	21	22 	23	24 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
25	26 7:30 - 8:00 pm GARS 2m Net	27	28	29	30	December 1 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive

Metro Testing Sessions

GARS publishes Metro Atlanta VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at <http://www.arrl-ga.org>.

First Sunday, ODD Months

2 pm (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov)
VEC: WCARS
Braselton Public Utility Building
4986 Highway 53, Braselton, GA
Contact: Roger Gibson, WB4T
(770) 271-4210 or (770) 712-9560
w4rlg@bellsouth.net

First Sunday, EVEN Months

2 pm (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec)
VEC: WCARS
Hall County EOC
470 Crescent Dr. Gainesville, Ga.
Contact: Perry Roper, KO4RD
(770) 536-3056

Second Saturday

10:00 AM
Alpharetta North Park, Adult Activities Center
13450 Cogburn Rd, Alpharetta, GA 30004
Contact: Ian Kahn, KM4IK
E-mail: km4ik.ian@gmail.com

Third Saturday, ODD Months

VEC: ARRL
9:30 am (Appointments required, no walk-ins)
Stone Mountain Masonic Lodge
840 VFW Drive
Stone Mountain, GA 30083
Contact: Frank Haynes, KV4SP
Email: fhaynes@vatmom.net
(678) 467-3712

Second Sunday

VEC: W5YI
2 pm
Fire Station #24
Mall of Georgia Boulevard
Buford, GA 30519
Contact: Dave Bruse, W4DTR
E-mail: exams@gars.org

First Sunday, EVEN Months

VEC: WCARS and W5YI
2 pm @ Barrow Co. Emerg. Serv. Bldg
66 McElroy Street
Winder, GA 30680
Contact: Mike Wolcott, W4WYI
(404) 281-6581
E-mail: W4WYI@ARRL.net

(cont. next column)

Ham Exam Results

October Results

We had a successful test session on Sunday October 14. One person tested and passed the Technician exam. The following VE's donated their Sunday time to make this session a success:

Pam Meridy, WB1AKQ
Dave Adanich, K8WDJ
Russell Prevost, KN4CGQ
David Bruse, W4DTR, CVE
Gregg Freeman, W1ROO
Bill Hawkins, WR1TR
Frank Haynes, KV4SP
Yolanda Pence, KM4AAQ
Robert Pence, KM4AAP

73, *Sid*, N4NQ (Co-CVE)

GARS VE Team Leaders
E-mail: exams@gars.org

GARS VE Website:
<http://gars.org/exams>



Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC
7 pm @ United Way Service Center
6279 Fairburn Rd., Douglasville
Contact: Jessie Clower, KB4WFK
(770) 942-6466

Fourth Sunday

2:30 pm Georgia Tech
VanLeer Elec. Building
Rm. W218, 777 Atlantic Dr.
For more information go to
www.w4aql.com and click on "Test Sessions"

Metro Club Meetings

First Tuesday

Kennehoochee ARC
Downtown Marietta
Fire Station #1, Training Room
112 Haynes Street
Marietta, Georgia 30060
Meeting begins at 7:00pm
Talk In 146.880(-)

First Thursday

Atlanta Radio Club
Georgia Red Cross HQ
1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta
Meeting is at 7:30pm
Talk In -146.820(-)

N.E. Georgia ARC
Commerce Public Library
1344 South Broad Street, Commerce
Meeting is at 6:30pm
Talk In - 147.225(+), PL 123.0

Second Monday

Georgia Tech ARC
Room W218
Van Leer Electrical Engineering Bldg.
Georgia Tech Campus
Meeting at 7:00pm

Second Thursday

Alford Memorial Radio Club
Annistown Road Baptist Church
Annistown Rd & Spain Rd
Stone Mountain
Dinner at 6:00pm, Meeting at 7:30pm
Talk In - 146.760(-)

Second Saturday

North GA QRP Club
Board Room of The Shepherd Center
2020 Peachtree Rd, NW, Atlanta
at 10:00 AM

Third Tuesday

North Fulton Amateur Radio League
Alpharetta Recreation & Parks Dept
Alpharetta Adult Activity Center
13450 Cogburn Road
Alpharetta, GA 30004
meeting at 7:30pm
Talk In - 145.47(-)

For more information, go to:
<http://www.gars.org/>

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